

PARTS OF SPEECH: ADVERBS

Identifying Adverbs

An adverb modifies (describes) a verb, an adjective or another adverb.

An adverb answers the questions: **When? Where? How? Why? How often? How much?**

To what extent? Many one-word adverbs end in **-ly** and answer the question "how?"

Examples:

Adverb modifying a verb:

The old man stooped wearily to pick up the suitcase.

(The adverb wearily modifies the verb stooped: Wearily answers "how?")

Adverb modifying another adjective:

The very tall house was the Johnson's.

(The adverb very modifies the adjective tall: Very answers "to what extent?")

Adverb modifying another adverb:

She sang well if slightly peculiarly.

(Slightly modifies the adverb peculiarly, answering the question "to what extent?")

Peculiarly modifies the verb sang, answering the question "how?")

Directions: Underline the adverbs in the following sentences. Draw an arrow to the word each adverb modifies:

1. Each lesson must be done accurately.
2. The huge waves crashed against the sandy beach endlessly.
3. The campground is on privately owned land.
4. With high octane gas the motor starts easily and runs well.
5. George accidentally cut his finger while he was repairing his car.
6. The temperature dropped considerably overnight.
7. Peter answered irritably when his mother asked him to take out the garbage.
8. As the engine warmed up, it began to run more steadily.
9. The students agreed they had been treated fairly.
10. Drive slowly when you come to Fircrest.